



**NORTH CENTRAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, February 19th, 2020 at 3:00 P.M.

**2016 N. Riverside Drive
Española, New Mexico 87532**

I. Call to Order

Chairman Campos officially called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

II. Roll Call

Board Members:

Rio Arriba County	Tomás Campos/Chairman, <i>Present</i>
Ohkay Owingeh	Ben Lujan/Vice Chairman, <i>Present; Arrived at 3:19 pm</i>
Santa Clara Pueblo	Bernardino Chavarria/Secretary, <i>Present</i>
Rio Arriba County	James Martinez, <i>Present; exited the meeting at 4:02 pm</i>
City of Española	John Ricci, <i>Present; exited the meeting at 5:08 pm</i>

Staff Members:

Manager	Peter Fuller
Bookkeeper/Accountant	Alice Martinez
Executive Assistant	Jake Payne

Others:

Rio Grande Sun	Molly Montgomery
Fierro & Fierro PA	Ed Fierro, CPA
Board Attorney	Renee Barela-Gutierrez
New Mexico Recycling Coalition	Sarah Pierpont

III. Approval of Agenda – Wednesday, February 19th, 2020

One change was made to the agenda by Manager Fuller; Item VI, Financial report, item A should be January Financials rather than December Financials. Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by John Ricci, second by Bernardino Chavarria. Motion passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, January 15th, 2020

Motion to approve the minutes as presented made by John Ricci, second by Bernardino Chavarria. Motion passed.

V. Audience Participation/Public Comment

None

VI. Financial

A. Financials

Mr. Fierro and Mrs. Martinez presented the financial reports for October 2019, November 2019, December 2019, & January 2020. Report enclosed. Mr. Fierro went on to report that the reason the financials for North Central Solid Waste Authority fell behind was due to constant staffing changes and the switch in computing software from Caselle to Incode. As of the date of the board meeting, all financial statements for North Central have been caught up. Mr. Fierro closed his report by stating that the budget comparison from last year to the current year came about to be fairly equal. Mr. Fierro also stated that it is vital to stay current on the financials, so that these recurring issues as of late do not occur again. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lujan entered the meeting at 3:19pm.

Mr. Campos began to ask questions about the payroll budget and how it seems like there isn't enough to pay everyone's wages. Mr. Campos then began to ask Mr. Fierro if the Board of Directors should move to adjust the budget to account for raises and benefits. Mr. Fierro responded by stating that a new foundation source of income would have to come in to help North Central stay above water in regard to their payroll budget. Mr. Fierro then stated that this can be something North Central can look into at the end of the year to see where we stand with this year's budget.

Mr. Ricci expressed his concerns for seeing hyperlinks for the companies financials on the website prior to the meeting to give everyone a chance to digest them. Mr. Fuller responded to Mr. Ricci by stating that going forward, Mr. Payne will ensure that all agendas going forward will have hyperlinks via the company website.

B. AP & Checks Register

Mr. Fierro and Mrs. Martinez presented the check reports for January 2020 along with a comparison to the check reports for January 2019. Report enclosed.

C. Collections Update

Mrs. Martinez presented the collection reports for January 2020. Mrs. Martinez stated that going forward a different report will be provided to more accurately display the collections report. Mrs. Martinez also stated that she will be working on getting more of the inactive accounts put into inactive status now that the financials are caught up. Mr. Campos asked who within the staff is in charge of collecting bad debt on the accounts. Mr. Fuller replied that JoAnn Marquez is the only staff member who takes care of delinquent accounts. Mr. Fuller also stated that Leonard Vigil also indirectly tries to find delinquent accounts by going out into the field and auditing customer accounts. Mr. Campos said that North Central should work to find a more concentrated area to help bring in more debt owed to North Central. Mr. Fuller agreed that the idea is definitely something we can look into doing.

VII. Manager's Report

Mr. Fuller announced to the board that his endeavors to ask the New Mexico legislature for money to replace trucks for North Central has been approved. The New Mexico legislature awarded North Central \$100,000. Mr. Fuller wanted to ask the board for permission to use the \$100,000 to purchase a new roll off truck and a new polycart truck. Mr. Campos agreed that new trucks are needed but, he wanted Peter to research different dealers to see if North Central can find more affordable options to make the best use out of the \$100,000. Mr. Fuller stated he would research different options and get back to the board at a later date.

Mr. Martinez left the meeting at 4:02 pm.

A. Sarah Pierpont, New Mexico Recycling Coalition

Sarah Pierpont presented to the board ideas about recycling cardboard and plastic waste. She stated that she piloted an idea with Freedman Recycling to start recycling cardboard in El Prado that has seen great success. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Campos posed an idea to see if we could get waste crates similar to the ones in Albuquerque in order to get Río Arriba County to have a place to put their cardboard waste. Discussion ensued. Mr. Fuller stated that we may be able to implement something akin to the waste crates but, it would be difficult because of the low amount of staff that North Central has. Mr. Campos stated that this may be a good idea for this year's RAID Grant.

Mrs. Pierpont went on to present about the "Break Free from Plastic" program that NMRC has started. She stated that the program is regarding the use of plastic bags in places like retail stores and trying to get everyone to "break away" from using them.

Mrs. Pierpont stated that while Santa Fe and Bernalillo County have stopped the use of plastic bags, it's still not enough if we really want to see results. The results meaning that our landfills and oceans continue pile up with these plastic bags. Mrs. Pierpont announced that Senator Udall supported the idea and awarded NMRC with \$500,000 in support and wanted North Central to get involved and start finding ways to influence Río Arriba County to stop the use of these plastic bags. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Pierpont closed her meeting by stating that there will be a New Mexico Recycling and Solid Waste Conference in September of 2020 and invited all present within the meeting to attend.

Mrs. Pierpont then left the meeting at 4:35pm.

B. Attorney Renee Barela-Gutierrez, City of Española M.O.U.

Attorney Barela-Gutierrez presented her interpretation of the Memorandum of Understanding of the City of Española and how it compared to the franchise agreement from Taos County. Discussion ensued. Mr. Ricci asked Attorney Barela-Gutierrez if she could draft the required ordinance/agreement for the City of Española. Attorney Barela-Gutierrez agreed to Mr. Ricci's request as long as the NCSWA Board agreed and stated that she would reach out to him soon to discuss this matter further.

Attorney Barela-Gutierrez also discussed with the Board of Director's the Joint Powers Agreement that was signed a few years prior. She stated that it needed to be re-done and signed by all current members to make the joint powers agreement legal.

Mr. Campos replied to Attorney Barela-Gutierrez that a discussion with consultant Joe Lewandowski may be helpful in understanding the intent and effect of the JPA. Mr. Campos wanted this because it was under his impression that when it was signed it was legal then and it doesn't make sense that it's not legal now. Attorney Barela-Gutierrez agreed that she would reach out to Mr. Lewandowski.

VIII. Director's Business

Mr. Lujan asked if we could use the \$100,00 that was awarded to North Central for the truck replacement, to instead replace the air curtain incinerator in Ohkay Owingeh. Mr. Fuller and Mr. Campos replied to Mr. Lujan that we asked for a different award letter for the air curtain burner and there has been no update as of yet. If and when it gets awarded, Mr. Fuller promised Mr. Lujan that North Central will get the air curtain incinerator replaced as soon as possible.

Mr. Ricci brought up punch cards for City of Española residents. He stated that when he brought up the topic that City of Española residents only get 2 punch cards a year, the City of Española Board of Directors wanted to see their residents get 4 cards a year. Mr. Fuller replied that he would look into this matter at a later date.

IX. Old/New Business

A. Air Curtain Incinerator Update

Mr. Fuller presented to the board that they wanted to move forward in purchasing the air curtain incinerator model, S-116R. Mr. Fuller stated that it would fit on the back of a roll off truck and it meets the specifications mandated by the EPA. Mr. Campos replied that North Central should do some more research in looking to get an air curtain incinerator that could be hauled by a pickup truck as they would be much cheaper than the S-116R. Discussion ensued. Mr. Fuller ended the discussion by stating he would look at some different dealers and see if North Central could find anything cheaper.

B. Commercial Bad Debt Accounts

Mr. Fuller presented the commercial accounts that had a bad debt of over \$5000 in debt. Mr. Fuller stated that two of the delinquent accounts reside on Santa Clara land and that North Central cannot lien these accounts as it is illegal to lien a business on Native American land. A letter was sent to the Santa Clara Governor's office to get further advisement on this issue. As of now, no reply from the Santa Clara Governor has been given as of this time.

Mr. Fuller ended his report by stating that Home Run Pizza has outright refused to pay their trash bill as the owner believes the city should pay for his trash bill. The owner reportedly believes this way because all businesses are "forced" to comply with the City of Española ordinance. The city ordinance states that all businesses that operate within the City of Española must use North Central for their solid waste services. Mr. Ricci stated that we would look into the issue and get to the bottom of it. Mr. Fuller also stated that Home Run Pizza may be using a Waste Management dumpster, but this has not been confirmed. Mr. Campos asked Mr. Fuller to have one of his staff members go over to Home Run Pizza to see if they are using a Waste Management dumpster.

C. Educational Outreach

Mr. Fuller stated that North Central will be presenting at Alcalde Elementary on April 7th to teach kids about the importance of recycling and trash. Mr. Fuller stated that we have reached out to San Juan Elementary and Quintana Elementary but, North Central has not heard anything else.

D. Website Update

Mr. Payne presented to the board the new website that he created to make things easier for customer use. Mr. Payne showed the board where people could find board meeting minutes, forms, billing information and North Central affiliated locations. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Ricci left the meeting at 5:08 pm.

E. Ash Pile Update

Mr. Fuller stated that North Central is hard at work to get the ash pile in Ohkay Owingeh moved correctly. Mr. Fuller stated that the Waste Management facility will take the ash pile after a profile is built for North Central regarding their ash waste. In order for a profile to be built, Waste Management needs to have the ash pile tested for hazardous materials before they will accept it. Mr. Fuller stated that as of now, the ash pile is in a research lab in Phoenix getting tested and when the results come back, they will be able to move forward and get the ash pile moved.

X. Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 18th, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Ben Lujan, second by Bernardino Chavarria. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2020

Tomás Campos, NCSWA Chairman

Ben Lujan, NCSWA Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Dino Chavarria, NCSWA Secretary